

# Network news

Issue 5

Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network

October 2000

## Network Appears Before House of Commons Committee

In June 2000, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights held two days of hearings on Bill C-244 (the *Blood Samples Act*). The bill proposes to amend the *Criminal Code* to permit court-ordered testing of persons for HIV or hepatitis where peace officers, firefighters, and other emergency services personnel or health-care workers have “reasonable grounds” to believe they may have been exposed to the risk of infection. In January, we wrote to the Minister of Justice, raising concerns about the Bill. In March, the Bill passed second reading in the House of Commons and was referred to the Justice Committee. In June, we appeared before the Committee and argued that the Bill is unnecessary, of limited benefit to those exposed, unethical, and unconstitutional. For more information, contact Richard Elliott at [relliott@aidslaw.ca](mailto:relliott@aidslaw.ca).

## Immigration and HIV/AIDS Becomes Priority

In each fiscal year, the Network prepares one “short” paper that promptly addresses new, emerging and/or pressing legal, ethical, and human rights issues related to HIV/AIDS in Canada. In 1998/99, we prepared *After Cuerrier: Canadian Criminal Law and the Non-Disclosure of HIV-Positive Status*; in 1999/2000, *Rapid HIV Screening at the Point of Care: Legal and Ethical Questions*.

In May and June of this year, we consulted with our members, Health Canada, and selected community-based organizations, seeking input as to which pressing issues should be the subject of this year’s work. On the basis of the input received, we decided in August to produce a paper on the legal, ethical, and policy issues raised by immigration and HIV/AIDS.

Canada’s immigration laws are in flux. Current proposals include introducing mandatory HIV testing of all applicants for immigration and the automatic exclusion of any person testing HIV-positive from immigrating. We presented an overview of this issue in our 1998 publication, *HIV Testing & Confidentiality: Final Report*. However, a more detailed and current analysis of this issue must now be undertaken.

Because of recent developments (a recommendation by Health Canada that all prospective immigrants be tested for HIV and hepatitis B, and that those testing positive be excluded *on public health grounds*), work on this issue has been accelerated. We have created a special section on immigration and HIV/AIDS on the Network’s website, which we update regularly. For more information, see at [www.aidslaw.ca](http://www.aidslaw.ca) or contact Ralf Jürgens at [ralfj@aidslaw.ca](mailto:ralfj@aidslaw.ca).



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## Network news

*Network News* aims to keep readers up to date on activities undertaken by the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, and serves as a means of information sharing among Network members. It is published every four months by the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network.

Contributions by Network members about their own HIV/AIDS-related activities in the area of law, ethics, and human rights are welcome and encouraged. Please submit such contributions in electronic format to Anne Renaud at:

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### Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network

The Network is a charitable organization engaged in education, legal and ethical analysis, and policy development. We promote responses to HIV/AIDS that

- implement the International Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights;
- respect the rights of people with HIV/AIDS and of those affected by the disease;
- facilitate HIV prevention efforts;
- facilitate care, treatment, and support of people with HIV/AIDS;
- minimize the adverse impact of HIV/AIDS on individuals and communities; and
- address the social and economic factors that increase vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and to human rights abuses.

We produce, and facilitate access to, accurate and up-to-date information and analysis on legal, ethical, and policy issues related to HIV/AIDS, in Canada and internationally. We consult, and give voice to, Network members and a wide range of participants, in particular communities of people with HIV/AIDS and those affected by HIV/AIDS, in identifying, analyzing, and addressing legal, ethical, and policy issues related to HIV/AIDS. We link people working on or concerned by these issues. We recognize the global implications of the epidemic and incorporate that perspective in our work.

The Network is a partner organization of the AIDS Law Project, South Africa. It is based in Montréal. We welcome new members. For membership information, contact Anne Renaud at [arenaud@aidslaw.ca](mailto:arenaud@aidslaw.ca).

# Reports on Aboriginal People and HIV/AIDS Released

Together with the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN), on 7 June we released three reports – *Discrimination, HIV/AIDS and Aboriginal People*; *HIV/AIDS and Aboriginal People: Problems of Jurisdiction and Funding*; and *HIV Testing and Confidentiality: Issues for the Aboriginal Community*. In the reports, the Network and CAAN show how HIV/AIDS-related discrimination, jurisdictional divisions, and funding problems are barriers to the development of the comprehensive and coordinated response to HIV/AIDS in Aboriginal communities that is so desperately needed: by 1999, Aboriginal people were five times more likely to have AIDS than other Canadians, and the proportion of HIV and AIDS cases attributed to Aboriginal persons continues to grow.

The reports contain 24 conclusions and recommendations. Among other things, they call for more involvement of all levels of leadership in HIV/AIDS issues; increased funding for HIV/AIDS programs and services for Aboriginal people; and increased access to quality HIV testing and counseling for Aboriginal people. Written by Stefan Matiation, the reports are the result of a partnership between the Network and CAAN, and benefited from extensive research and discussions with over 50 key informants.

The reports and their recommendations received a lot of attention in the media, particularly in the press and on radio. Highlights included articles in many newspapers, including feature articles in *Le Devoir* and the *Globe and Mail* and in Aboriginal media.

With the release of the reports, which are complemented by a series of info sheets, work is only beginning for the Network and CAAN. We are planning follow-up activities to ensure that the recommendations in the reports will be implemented, as well as a full-day skills-building event on the issues raised in the reports.

For more information, contact Maria Nengeh Mensah at [mnmensah@aidslaw.ca](mailto:mnmensah@aidslaw.ca).



## 2000 AGM Highlights

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Our 2000 AGM was held in Toronto from 16 to 18 June 2000. Over 100 people attended the keynote addresses by Justice Horace Krever, and by Ann Livingstone and Dean Wilson from the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (VANDU), on the evening of 16 June. And over 60 people, including over 40 of our members from across Canada, attended the AGM itself and six skills-building workshops held on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. At the AGM, members had an opportunity to provide input into the selection of the “new and emerging or pressing” legal and policy issue that the Network will analyze in 2000/2001 (subsequently, on the basis of the input received, we selected the issue of immigration and HIV/AIDS, as mentioned elsewhere in this issue); and participated in an informal evaluation of our *Canadian HIV/AIDS Policy & Law Newsletter*. Participants particularly liked the series of skills-building workshops on the 18<sup>th</sup>, with sessions on HIV/AIDS vaccines, rapid HIV testing, access to treatment in

developing countries, injection drug use, “hot” legal and ethical issues related to HIV/AIDS, and a session on how to access information on these issues. Special thanks to the funders who made these events possible: Health Canada, the Ontario AIDS Bureau, and the Centre québécois de coordination sur le sida (who enabled us to provide scholarships to many Ontario and Québec delegates who would not otherwise have been able to attend), the HIV/AIDS Legal Clinic of Ontario, and three Toronto law firms: Goodman and Carr, Borden Ladner Gervais, and McCarthy Tétrault.

Justice Krever’s keynote address is now available on our website at [www.aidslaw.ca/maincontent/events/kreverprese.htm](http://www.aidslaw.ca/maincontent/events/kreverprese.htm).

## Works Starts on Drug Pricing and Related Questions

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As reported in the last issue of *Network News* (at page 4), the members of the National Advisory Committee for the Network’s care, treatment, and support project met in Toronto on 3-4 March 2000, joined by a number of other experts in the area of care, treatment, and support. The goal was to provide advice on priority issues affecting HIV/AIDS care, treatment, and support regarding which the Network could undertake legal and ethical analysis.

At the workshop, the “top four” issues identified as priorities for in-depth analysis were (in order): (1) drug pricing and drug access; (2) drug regulatory issues (specifically, post-approval surveillance and off-label use); (3) insurance issues; and (4) privacy and confidentiality.

On the basis of the input obtained, and taking into account other relevant factors, we have decided that the next in our series of papers on care, treatment, and support issues will be on the issue of **drug pricing and related questions**. Not only was this the front-runner with the Advisory Committee, it complements and supports the activism already initiated on the national level by the Canadian Treatment Advocates Council (CTAC). It is also an issue on which some significant international momentum is growing – particularly in the wake of the Durban conference. This includes increased attention in the US – always a significant influence on Canadian law and policy – on regulating drug prices, and sustained activism directly targeting the US administration, which is a dominant global player on this issue.

In addition, the Network is already committed to working on access to treatment in developing countries with the AIDS Law Project, South Africa, which is heavily involved in ongoing advocacy campaigns and litigation regarding drug pricing and treatment access. Finally, there is relatively little currently being done in Canada to contribute to global advocacy on drug pricing and access to treatment, but people with HIV/AIDS, and Canadian treatment activists and AIDS service organizations, have expressed an increasing interest in making such a contribution. This work ultimately stands to benefit not only people with HIV/AIDS in developing countries, but also those in Canada.

Finally, there are significant legal and ethical dimensions to this issue, including:

- questions of intellectual property laws protecting patents (both domestic and with regard to the effect of international trade agreements, and mechanisms available to protect health interests under such laws);
- direct price regulation under domestic legislation; and
- the statutes, regulations, and policies that govern payment by third-party payers (ie, provincial health insurance plans, private insurers) for drugs,



obviously affected by considerations of price as the most rapidly escalating component of health-care costs.

As always, work on the issue will proceed through a process of consultation and refinement before it is completed. In the coming months, we will identify in more detail the key areas the paper

must cover. We will then solicit feedback and work toward completing a final version, which will be released in late 2001 or early 2002.

For more information on this project, contact Richard Elliott at [relliott@aidslaw.ca](mailto:relliott@aidslaw.ca).

## The Network in Durban

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As previously reported, together with the AIDS Law Project, South Africa (ALP), the Network organized a one-day satellite conference on legal, ethical, and human rights issues that took place on 7 July 2000, just prior to the XIII International AIDS Conference in Durban. Over 100 people attended, and participants from both developing and developed countries discussed four issues: access to treatment, legal and ethical issues relating to vaccines, criminal law and HIV/AIDS, and vulnerability of women and the role of the law. The focus was on legal strategies to advance the human rights of those most vulnerable to HIV/AIDS and to discrimination.

The conference, which was co-hosted by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), was opened by Dr Peter Piot, Executive Director, UNAIDS, and by the Honourable Maria Minna, Canada's Minister for International Cooperation. Speakers included Yvonne Mokgoro, Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, and Justice Edwin Cameron of the High Court of

South Africa. More information about the conference, as well as the papers presented at it, can be found on the Network's website at [www.aidslaw.ca/durban2000/e-durban2000.htm](http://www.aidslaw.ca/durban2000/e-durban2000.htm).

In addition to organizing the satellite conference, Network staff and Board members gave eight oral and five poster presentations at the main Conference. A summary of some of the highlights of the Conference in the area of law, ethics, and policy will soon be posted on our website at the address above; and many of the most relevant presentations at the Conference in this area will be published in the next issue of our *Canadian HIV/AIDS Policy & Law Newsletter*, which will be available in December.

## Project News

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### Injection drug use and HIV/AIDS: legal and ethical issues

We are still waiting for Minister Rock's official response to the recommendations in our report on *Injection Drug Use and HIV/AIDS: Legal and Ethical Issues*, launched on 24 November 1999. The response was originally expected before the end of June 2000, but has been delayed. It should, however, be released very soon. Until we prepare our "response to the response," we continue other activities in this area. Ralf Jürgens organized a workshop on legal, ethical, and human rights issues related to injection drug use and HIV/AIDS at the Women and HIV/AIDS Conference in Toronto in May; Richard Elliott organized a skills-building workshop on the legal issues related to injection drug use and HIV/AIDS at the Network's AGM; and Ralf gave an oral presentation on the subject at the XIII International Conference on HIV/AIDS in Durban. In addition, Ian Malkin, a law lecturer from the University of Melbourne, spent his sabbatical at the Network in July and August, working on a paper concerning the legal and ethical issues related to the establishment of supervised injecting facilities. We will publish a summary of

the paper in a future issue of the *Canadian HIV/AIDS Policy & Law Newsletter*.

For more information on our activities in this area, contact Ralf at [ralfj@aidslaw.ca](mailto:ralfj@aidslaw.ca).

### Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) and HIV health care: an ethical perspective

As previously reported, the scope and content of this project, started in February 1999, has been revised. Originally conceived as a small project limited to the writing of a short paper, the project will now result in the publication of the first in our series of papers on care, treatment, and support issues. The paper that was originally circulated to a small group of individuals is undergoing further, substantial revisions, and we will organize a workshop to obtain further input into it, which is now scheduled for January 2001. For more information, contact Ralf Jürgens at [ralfj@aidslaw.ca](mailto:ralfj@aidslaw.ca).





## Care, treatment, and support paper released

The final version of Richard Elliott's paper, entitled HIV/AIDS Care, Treatment, and Support – Legal and Ethical Issues: An Overview of Options for Future Work, has now become available. The paper provides a description of the Legal Network's project on HIV/AIDS Care, Treatment, and Support: Legal and Ethical Issues. It describes the background to the project, project activities to date, and the work that is anticipated in completing the project. More important, it provides an overview of 11 legal, ethical, and policy issues related to HIV/AIDS care, treatment, and support. The paper is available on the Network's website, or by contacting Éric Nolet at enolet@aidslaw.ca.

## Work on vaccine issues

The discussion paper on the legal, ethical, and human rights issues raised by the development and eventual availability of a vaccine for HIV/AIDS has been completed and is being widely distributed for comments and input. Further input will be obtained from the participants at a small workshop the Network is organizing in Montréal on 19 and 20 November. For more information on the vaccine project, contact Ralf Jürgens at ralfj@aidslaw.ca.

## HIV/AIDS in prisons

We are currently updating our 1999 series of info sheets on HIV/AIDS in prisons, which is out of print (but remains available on our website). Among other activities in this area, Ralf Jürgens will participate in a meeting on HIV/AIDS in Prisons in Russia, sponsored by the World Health Organization, to be held in Copenhagen on 5 and 6 October.

# Other Network News

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## CIDA funds Network's Partnership Project

The Legal Network was one of 10 Canadian organizations selected in June for funding under the new HIV/AIDS Small Grants Program established by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The objective of this Program is to encourage new and to strengthen emerging partnerships between HIV/AIDS or development organizations in Canada and organizations in developing countries.

With the funding received, the Legal Network and our partner organization, the AIDS Law Project, South Africa (ALP), will work together to improve treatment access for people with HIV/AIDS in South Africa and other resource-poor countries. As part of the project, staff from ALP will spend time in Canada, and Richard Elliott will work with ALP staff in South Africa in April 2001.

This is the first time a Canadian organization has undertaken a sustained effort to work with an organization in a resource-poor country on human rights and access-to-treatment issues. For more information on the project, contact Ralf Jürgens at ralfj@aidslaw.ca.

## Resource Centre

Our Resource Centre continues to grow: over 2000 items have been entered into the Centre's electronic database, and all are accessible to Network members

and the public. To benefit from this unique collection, contact Maria Nengeh Mensah at mmmensah@aidslaw.ca.

## www.aidslaw.ca

We have completely redesigned our site, to make it even more user friendly. More new features will be added in the coming months. Check out the new site and let us know what you think by sending an email to info@aidslaw.ca.

## Listserv

To facilitate communication between our members and others interested in legal, ethical, and policy issues related to HIV/AIDS in Canada, we will soon launch a listserv. More information on this new activity will appear in the next issue of *Network News*.

## Policy & Law Newsletter

We started implementing some of the suggestions made during the evaluation session of our *Newsletter* at the Network's AGM. In particular, we prepared a table of contents of all past issues, by subject and by country, making the information in past issues much more accessible. To check out the over 80 articles on HIV/AIDS in prisons published in the *Newsletter*, or articles in any of many other areas, go to <http://www.aidslaw.ca/Maincontent/otherdocs/Newsletter/newsletter-toc.htm>.

## Network participates in consultation on CIDA action plan

On 15 May, we participated in a consultation organized by the Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD) on CIDA's new HIV/AIDS Action Plan. For more details, check out ICAD's website at [www.icad-cisd.com](http://www.icad-cisd.com).



## 2000/2001 Board

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The Network's 2000/2001 Board includes three new members: Renée Masching (Atlantic), Marlene Daley (Québec), and Darlene Steele (Pacific).

*Marlene Daley* is the Treasurer of the Network. She has worked on HIV/AIDS issues since 1988, specifically in the areas of policy development and implementation, research, counseling, training, prevention, and program development. Over the past 12 years she has authored Concordia University's HIV/AIDS policy, worked at the Montréal General Hospital's Centre for AIDS Studies, as well as co-organized the 1<sup>st</sup> Québec Aboriginal AIDS Conference. She is currently working in Montréal at the AIDS Intervention Centre, CLSC Metro, as an anonymous HIV-testing counselor and is in charge of PNP-HIV, a voluntary partner notification service for the Montréal region. For six years Marlene also accompanied her sister Elaine, who died of AIDS in 1993.

*Renée Masching* has worked in the field of HIV/AIDS and sexual health education since 1990, specifically with Atlantic First Nations communities from 1995. Renée became the Director of Healing our Nations (formerly the Atlantic First Nations AIDS Task Force), Halifax, in August 1997. She has also served on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network for several years and held the position of Vice-Chair from March 1998 to June 1999. Currently, Renée works with the Laboratory Centre for Disease Control Aboriginal Working Group and the First

Nations and Inuit Health Branch HIV/AIDS Focus Group, and maintains close ties with her colleagues across the Atlantic region.

*Darlene Steele* is a retired nurse and legal practitioner. Her specialty is health law and she has a Masters degree in law from the University of Western Australia and a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of British Columbia. She has worked with the Western Australia AIDS Organization, preparing their response to proposed infectious disease legislation, as well as with the Health Department of Western Australia drafting new health legislation. She has been a frequent lecturer on health law issues such as consent, confidentiality, and testing. She has been involved in the consumer health movement since the 1970s, working with the Vancouver Women's Health Collective and with the Consumers Health Network in Western Australia.

Eight members of the 1999/2000 Board have been re-elected or are serving the second year of their term: Caroline Ploem (Atlantic), Lori Stoltz, Ruth Carey, William Bromm, and Stefan Matiation (Ontario), Marie-Josée Paquin (Prairies), and Barney Hickey and Michael Linhart (Pacific). Their bios can be found on the Network's website at [www.aidslaw.ca/about.htm#bod](http://www.aidslaw.ca/about.htm#bod). For their contributions to the Network, many thanks to three Board members who left us: Raymond Campeau, David Thompson, and Bruno Guillot-Hurtubise.

## Network Staff, Interns, and Visitors

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In April, *Terry Gould* joined the Network staff (see the bios at [www.aidslaw.ca/AbouttheNetwork/aboutstaff.htm](http://www.aidslaw.ca/AbouttheNetwork/aboutstaff.htm)). Terry began working with us on a one-day-a-week contract basis in the summer of 1999, assisting Maria in the Resource Centre. As of April 2000 he has been working an additional three days a week as office clerk. Terry can be reached at (514) 397-6828 ext 225. His email address is [tgould@aidslaw.ca](mailto:tgould@aidslaw.ca).

*Josée Dussault*, then a third-year student in communications at Université de Montréal, did an internship at the Network from January to April as part of her studies. She worked eight hours a week, helping us identify ways to further improve our *Canadian HIV/AIDS Policy & Law Newsletter*. This is what Josée says about her experience at the Network: "My experience as an intern at the Network enabled me to confirm some of my career expectations. I was given a lot of freedom to carry out my public relations project on the *Canadian HIV/AIDS Policy & Law Newsletter*. First, I had the opportunity to do detailed research on the Network and

the *Newsletter* from a communications point of view. Then I identified the priority aspects on which work could be done in order to improve communications between the Network and the *Newsletter's* readers. And thanks to the invaluable advice of Maria Nengeh Mensah and Ralf Jürgens, I succeeded in developing a questionnaire for readers, the aim of which was to better understand how they use the *Newsletter* and their level of satisfaction with it. My internship with the Network provided me with a stimulating work environment that was full of challenges. Since my university studies are now complete, it is just such challenges that I intend to deal with every day in the career I'm beginning as a translator and communications consultant for community organizations."

In July and August, *Ian Malkin*, a law lecturer from the University of Melbourne, Australia, visited the Network. Ian first had contact with us in 1995, when he was researching an article on prison authorities' civil responsibilities to



prisoners (to provide clean syringes and condoms, in order to prevent the transmission of HIV and other bloodborne viruses). As a result of his intermittent contact with the Network – writing a background paper and newsletter article (printed in the *Canadian HIV/AIDS Policy & Law Newsletter* 1995; 2(1): 19-22) – he knew where he wanted to spend his next sabbatical: at the Network.

Ian notes that, “at that time, I was bowled over by the nature of the work undertaken and accomplished by the Network and the dedication of everyone working there: all of its publications are incredibly impressive – ranging from the final reports, to the issues and background papers to the *Newsletter*. They are invaluable resources, not only in terms of the kinds of arguments contained in them, but also for the many sources used in them: brilliant material, of assistance to anyone interested in HIV/AIDS legal issues. And the *Newsletter* is essential reading for keeping up-to-date on a wide spectrum of legal issues related to HIV/AIDS, not only in Canada but overseas as well.”

While at the Network, Ian worked on a paper concerning the establishment of supervised injecting facilities – a very live issue in Australia at the moment, with three jurisdictions either implementing trial facilities or hoping to do so.

Ian said that “the Network was the ideal place to investigate the issues associated with the proposed measures.... [I]t is difficult knowing how I can repay the warmth and hospitality shown me – except by inviting all those working at the Network to come to Melbourne, on sabbatical or a visit, at which time I’d love to be able to try to reciprocate their generosity.” Thanks, Ian, and we may take you up on that offer!

Thanks to a grant received under the Summer Career Placements Program 2000 from Human Resources

Development Canada, *Alana Klein*, a third-year student at McGill University’s Faculty of Law, started a 10-week summer position at the Legal Network in May. She had a background in human rights law and international economic development, but wanted to gain some experience in a community-based Canadian non-governmental organization. “The HIV/AIDS Legal Network proved to be an ideal choice for me. I have learned more in three months at the Network than I did in two years of law school,” Alana says.

Alana spent the summer researching and writing a paper on Canada’s immigration policies with regard to HIV and AIDS. The work was pressing, as Canada is currently changing its immigration laws and policies. “It’s a mixed bag,” Alana reports on the proposed changes. “Some barriers to the mobility of family-class immigrants and refugees living with HIV and AIDS are being removed, and that is certainly a welcome improvement. But even while some doors are opening, others are closing. There have been proposals to test all prospective immigrants for HIV and to exclude those who test positive, on the ground that they are a danger to the Canadian public. That would be a big step backward, a worrying return to outdated thinking driven more by fear than reason. A lot of people could really suffer from that kind of change.”

Alana’s experience at the Network brought her much more than just the ability to cite the *Immigration Act* verbatim. “I was amazed at how dedicated, knowledgeable and sensitive everyone at the Network was. People never seemed to lose sight of why they do what they do, or who they are doing it for.” She also appreciated the open atmosphere in the office. “It was a really easy place to feel comfortable. I hope to continue my involvement with the Legal Network well into the future.”

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## Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network Donation Form

**Yes!** I want to make a donation toward the important work of the Legal Network.

Please accept my donation of:  \$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (outside Canada, please pay in US dollars).

Please charge my Visa: Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose cheque/money order payable to the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network.  Please invoice me.

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Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, 484 McGill St., Suite 400, Montréal, QC, H2Y 2H2 Phone: 514 397-6828 Fax: 514 397-8570  
Email: info@aidslaw.ca Website: www.aidslaw.ca All eligible donors of \$10 or more will be sent a tax receipt.



## Important Dates

### Montréal, 21-23 September 2001: The Network 2001 AGM and Skills-Building Event

Back in Montréal, and in September to avoid conflict with the Canadian Skills Building Symposium that will also take place in Montréal, in early July. As in 2000, there will be keynote presentations on Friday evening, 21 September, and a full day devoted to skills building and discussion of hot legal, ethical, and human rights issues related to HIV/AIDS on Sunday, 23 September. For more information, contact Anne Renaud at [arenaud@aidslaw.ca](mailto:arenaud@aidslaw.ca) or tel: 514 397-6828 ext 222.

## New Resources

Since May 2000, the following new resources produced by the Network have become available on our website at [www.aidslaw.ca](http://www.aidslaw.ca) or from the Canadian HIV/AIDS Clearinghouse (tel: 1-877-999-7740; email: [aids/sida@cpha.ca](mailto:aids/sida@cpha.ca)):

- *Discrimination, HIV/AIDS and Aboriginal People* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition);
- *HIV/AIDS and Aboriginal People: Problems of Jurisdiction and Funding* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition);
- *HIV Testing and Confidentiality: Issues for the Aboriginal Community* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition);
- a series of info sheets on *Aboriginal People and HIV/AIDS: Legal Issues*; and
- an info sheet on essential resources in the area of prostitution and HIV/AIDS.

Other new resources produced by the Network, but available only on our website or by contacting Éric Nolet at [enolet@aidslaw.ca](mailto:enolet@aidslaw.ca), include:

- the Network's 1999/2000 Annual Report;
- *HIV/AIDS Care, Treatment, and Support – Legal and Ethical Issues: An Overview of Options for Future Work*; and
- a series of discussion papers prepared for the satellite conference on legal issues we held before the XIII International AIDS Conference: (1) Criminal Law and HIV/AIDS – Strategic Considerations; (2) Using Rights and the Law to Reduce Women's Vulnerability to HIV/AIDS; and (3) Resolving Legal, Ethical, and Human Rights Challenges in HIV Vaccine Research.

For a full list of publications, contact Éric via email or by phone at (514) 397-6828 ext 227.

## Comments and Feedback



*I just wanted to take the time to express thanks to you, and to your energetic, committed staff. The Network has been an incredible source and support for us on a number of occasions and we thank you.*

– Jennifer Furtney, Executive Director, AIDS Committee of North Bay and Area, 12 September 2000

*The Report [on rapid HIV screening] is most timely and pertinent. While the Canadian Medical Association has not developed policy recommendations regarding HIV screening at the point of care, we are currently reviewing the existing policies on HIV and AIDS... [T]he recommendations of the Legal Network will be considered during the revision and consultation phase of this policy review.*

– Isra G Levy, Director, Health Programs, Canadian Medical Association, 26 June 2000

*At ACCKWA [AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener Waterloo and Area] we look at both the Legal Network and HALCO [the HIV/AIDS Legal Clinic of Ontario] for thorough articulation of HIV/AIDS issues and the legal ramifications of policy. I would just like to express that I have consistently been able to rely on your writing and the work of others at the Legal Network for timely and important information.*

– Joanne Olson, ACCKWA, 23 June 2000

*This is an excellent newsletter that brings a wealth of legal and policy issues to the attention of all who read the publication. Highly recommended for all academic and law libraries.*

– AIDS Book Review Journal, February/March 2000 (review of the *Canadian HIV/AIDS Policy & Law Newsletter*)